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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 16, 1999

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FEDERAL JUDGE DISCUSSES LAWYERS' ETHICS IN UM LECTURE

MISSOULA --

A U.S. Court of Appeals judge will examine ethics in the legal profession next week during The University of Montana School of Law's 17th Blankenbaker Lecture on Professional Responsibility.

Judge Diane P. Wood of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will present "The Measure of a Lawyer's Ethical I.Q." at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20. The free public lecture will take place in the Castles Center on the law school's lower level.

Wood was appointed to the Chicago-based appeals court by President Clinton in 1995. After graduating from the University of Texas law school, she clerked for a 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge in 1975 and for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun in 1976.

After stints as a U.S. Department of State legal adviser and a lawyer in private practice, Wood joined the faculty of the University of Chicago Law School, where she served as associate dean from 1989 to 1992. In 1990 she was named the Harold J. and Marion F. Green Chair in International Legal Studies, becoming the first woman at the University of Chicago's law school to be honored with a named chair's position.

Immediately before joining the appeals court, Wood was deputy assistant attorney

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general in the U.S. Department of Justice's antitrust division.

Wood's scholarly interests include antitrust law, international trade and business, and federal civil procedure, and she has published widely in those areas.

The Blakenbaker Lecture on Professional Responsibility began in 1978 with an endowment to UM's School of Law from the Blakenbaker Foundation. The foundation, established in 1975 by the then-90-year-old Joseph N. Blakenbaker, was intended to express his thanks to the people of Montana for treating him so well. Blakenbaker, born in Virginia in 1885, moved to Montana at age 24 and began a fruitful career in banking.

The endowment to the lecture series that carries on Blankenbaker's name is intended to increase leadership, competence and professional responsibility in the Montana legal profession.

The lecture has been approved for 1.0 Continuing Legal Education credit by the Montana Board of Continuing Legal Education.

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